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URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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UA 271/86 Fear of Torture 18 September 1986

INDONESIA/EAST TIMOR: Joao FREITAS DA CAMARA, aged 29
Francisco Fernandes CARVALHO, aged 30

Amnesty International fears that the two East Timorese men above may be facing torture following their arrest by the Indonesian military. Both are students at Atmajaya University in Jakarta.

Joao Freitas da Camara from Suai, East Timor, was reportedly arrested at midnight on 16 September 1986. He is in his last year of law school. Francisco Fernandes Carvalho from Uatocarbao, East Timor, was reportedly arrested at 5 a.m. on 17 September. He is an engineering student. Both men are single and have been studying in Jakarta since 1981.

It is not known where these two men are being held and Amnesty International is concerned that they may face torture during interrogation. The arrests come less than two weeks after the arrest of Antonio Goncalves, another East Timorese student at Atmajaya, on 3 September (see UA 249/86, ASA 21/23/86 5 September). The reasons for the arrests of these three men are not known.

Amnesty International is calling on the Indonesian authorities to make public the charges against all three men, to make known their place of detention, to ensure that they have access to lawyers and friends, and are humanely treated while in custody.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since the Indonesian invasion of East Timor in 1975, Amnesty International has received frequent reports of torture by the Indonesian military of East Timorese suspected of having links with the Frente Revolucionaria de Timor Leste Independente (Fretilin), the armed movement fighting for an independent East Timor. However, all reports have been from East Timor itself. Amnesty International has also received reports of political prisoners in Jakarta having been tortured during interrogation by intelligence personnel. It is, therefore, concerned for the safety and well-being of the three students.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/express letters/airmail letters:

- expressing concern that Joao Freitas da Camara and Francisco Fernandes Carvalho may be tortured;

- urging that their whereabouts be made known and that they be given access to friends and lawyers;

- seeking assurances that they are being humanely treated while in custody.

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Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working for the international protection of human rights. It seeks the *release* of men and women detained anywhere because of their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religious creed, provided they have not used or advocated violence. These are termed prisoners of conscience. It opposes for